

Serial No. 09/684,742

PATENT
Docket No. 78700-020112**REMARKS**

In this response, claims 1, 48 and 49 have been amended, no claims have been canceled, and claims 52-56 have been added. Thus, claims 1-56 are now pending. The Office Action issued by the Examiner has been carefully considered by Applicant.

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8, 14-16, 18, 24, 34, 39-41, 43-45, 48, and 49 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Clare et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,414,955) (hereinafter "Clare").

Applicant's claim 1 has been amended to recite that distributing storage and processing of the collected data comprises transferring data from the at least one node of a first type to another of the plurality of network elements and processing of the transferred data by the another of the plurality of network elements.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner states that Clare teaches distribution of data to a user node (col. 16, lines 5-16). Applicant's claim 1 now recites that the collected data is collected "from the at least one environment using the at least one sensor". This section of Clare does not discuss any data that is collected from a sensor, or even the distributing of processing of data. Furthermore, Clare does not teach or suggest any processing of data that is transferred to another network element as recited in Applicant's amended claim 1.

The Examiner also states that Clare teaches a wireless transceiver to provide communication between network nodes or users for communicating data (col. 21, lines 42-51). Yet, again, Clare does discuss any sensor collected data in this cited section. There is only a general mention of "communicating data", which in the context of this mention, a person of skill in the art would understand to be only data associated with the self-assembly method extensively described by Clare throughout the entire patent, which method Clare has described as being suitable for using with the transceiver. If Clare does not even mention sensor collected data in this context, then there can be no suggestion for

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“distributing storage and processing of the [sensor] collected data” as Applicant recites in claim 1.

Finally, the Examiner has still not made any showing or explanation as to how distributing storage and processing of the collected data is done “in response to the node information” as recited in Applicant’s claim 1. Certainly, the two sections cited by the Examiner above do not suggest any such responsive relationship.

Other Independent Claims

As to Applicant’s independent claims 46, 50 and 51, the Examiner has only stated a rejection based on “similar reasons” to earlier claims. However, the Examiner does not appear to have recognized that claims 46, 50 and 51 each recite “remotely programming and controlling at least one function of the plurality of node types in response to the collected data” (emphasis added). It should be noted, for example, that some of the claims above recite action in response to “node information” rather than “collected data”. Accordingly, Applicants believe that a prima facie case has not yet been presented for these three claims.

Applicant’s independent claims 48 and 49 as amended now each recite that “distributing storage and processing of the collected data comprises transferring data from the at least one node of a first type to another of the plurality of network elements and processing of the transferred data by the another of the plurality of network elements” and are believed allowable for similar reasons as discussed above for Applicant’s amended claim 1.

New Claims

Applicant’s new independent claim 54 recites “distributing storage and processing of the collected data among the plurality of nodes; wherein distributing storage and processing of the collected data comprises transferring data from the at least one node to a

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second node of the plurality of nodes and processing of the transferred data by the second node" and is believed allowable for similar reasons as discussed above for Applicant's claim 1.

Applicant's new independent claim 56 recites "distributing processing of the collected data among the plurality of network elements in response to at least one parameter of a signal received from the at least one environment, wherein distributing processing of the collected data comprises transferring data from the at least one node to another of the plurality of network elements." Claim 56 is believed allowable at least for its reciting of distributing processing in response to a signal received from the environment. For example, Clare does not teach any examining of signals from the environment for the purpose of affecting any distributing of processing.

Applicant's new dependent claims are believed allowable at least for the reasons discussed above for the independent claims from which they depend.

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Docket No. 78700-020112**Conclusion**

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the allowance of all pending claims. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and that the application is now in order for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance thereof is courteously solicited.

If it is helpful to advance prosecution of this application, Applicant's representative welcomes a telephone call at the number below to discuss this response.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 13, 2006

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